Application No. 09/694,965

REMARKS

Claims 1-13, all of the pending claims as filed, have been rejected under 35 USC 103 over Onaga in view of Cook.

The primary reference, Onaga, shows an arrangement by which certain users on a network can change the "settings" of individual multifunction printers (MFP's) on the network. At column 10 it is taught how different classes of human users (such as administrators, technicians, end users) can be given different levels of access to different settings of MFP's. However, the type of "data" over which access is controlled in Onaga is generally known in the art of network printing as "settings": examples of "settings" in this context are given in Tables 1 and 2 of Onaga. As can be seen, these settings can be characterized as data which affects the operation of the MFP, as opposed to *image data* for images recorded or created by the MFP.

The secondary reference, Cook, is cited for showing displaying a request for a type of code to perform a function, and then carrying out a preselected course of action if the code is not entered. However, the overall context of Cook is an online security/authorization system for debiting money from prepaid phone cards. It is not suggested in Cook that the general security functions have any relevance to printers, or, more specifically, to handling *image data* that would be sent to a printer or to or from a MFP.

Claim 1, from which all the claims in the application are dependent, has been amended to recite that one selectable option for situations in which the code has not been provided includes the machine *holding image data*. Support for the "holding" feature is given in the Specification as filed at pages 6 and 7. In the scanning or facsimile context, image data which is collected from a hard-copy original can also be held, i.e., not sent outward, at a machine. Other dependent claims have been modified to be formally consistent with the changes in claim 1.

Claim 1 is now comparable in scope to (although somewhat broader than) claims 5 and 6 as originally filed. Claims 1, 5, and 6 have been amended to state that *image data* is held at the machine, such as for a predetermined amount of

5

Application No. 09/694,965

time or until a necessary code is entered. In the Office Action, claims 5 and 6 were rejected, specifically, in view of Column 21 of Cook. However, as the claims have been amended to recite that *image data* is held at the machine, the claims are clearly distinguishable from Cook. As is clear from the cited passage of Cook, the reference is interested purely in accounting-type data, such as would be used in an electronic monetary transaction. There is no suggestion in Cook of any applicability to *image data*, as recited in the claims. Similarly, with the primary reference, Onaga, the data to which access is restricted is printer settings, i.e., how the printer operates, not *image data*, which is what the printer prints. Absent any discussion of **holding image data** in either reference, the references cannot be combined to yield the invention of claim 1 or its dependent claims.

New claims 14-16 have been added. These claims are deemed allowable as being dependent from claim 1 as amended.

The claims are therefore in condition for allowance.

No additional fee is believed to be required for this amendment; however, the undersigned Xerox Corporation attorney authorizes the charging of any necessary fees, other than the issue fee, to Xerox Corporation Deposit Account No. 24-0025.

6

Application No. 09/694,965

In the event the Examiner considers personal contact advantageous to the disposition of this case, he is hereby requested to call the undersigned attorney at (585) 423-3811, Rochester, NY.

Respectfully submitted,

Robert Hutter
Attorney for Applicant(s)
Registration No. 32,418
Telephone (585) 423-3811

July 13, 2004
RH/fsl
Xerox Corporation
Xerox Square 20A
Rochester, New York 14644

7